

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : Concurrent
First Named Inventor : Eric M. Elliott
Filed : Concurrent
Title : COMBINATION TARGETING GUIDE AND DRIVER INSTRUMENT FOR
USE IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGICAL PROCEDURES
TC/A.U. : N/A
Examiner : N/A

Atty. Docket No. : 0103-0026 (ZM0571)
Customer No. : 34086

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant(s) determine(s) that the cited document(s) do not constitute

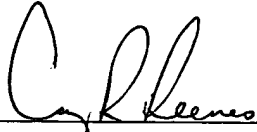
Appl. No.
Information Disclosure Statement

"prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 2, 2004

By: 
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| Substitute for FORM PTO-1449 | | Attorney Docket Number 0103-0026 (ZM0571) | Customer No. 34086 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u> | | First Named Inventor Eric M. Elliott | Application Number Concurrent | |
| | | Filing Date 01/02/2004 | Group Art Unit N/A | Examiner N/A |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION (YES/NO) |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|---|
| Hand Biomechanics Lab, Inc., Agee WristJack® Multiplanar Ligamentotaxis™ Fracture Reduction System Surgeons Manual Part No. 306000Q, 2002 |
| Acumed, External Fixation Systems, Stableloc Brochure, 1999 |
| Orthofix, The Pennig II Radiolucent Non-Bridging Wrist Fixator, Brochure ES-01009-SS, 2001 |
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|-----------------|------------------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|-----------------|------------------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.